



MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 26, 2016

TO: Chair Capron and Members of the East Bellevue Community Council

FROM: Catherine A. Drews, Assistant City Attorney, 425-452-6134
Paul Bucich, Assistant Director of Engineering, Utilities Department
425-452-4596

SUBJECT: Update on the Low Impact Development Principles Project and
Introduction of Project Proposals.

INTRODUCTION

On June 7, staff will update the East Bellevue Community Council (EBCC) on the Low Impact Development (LID) Principles Project and introduce proposals to integrate the principles into the City's development codes and standards. A copy of the relevant proposals are included as Attachment A to this memorandum. No action is requested of the EBCC at the conclusion of the study session. A courtesy hearing will be scheduled for a future date once the proposals are fully developed. Additional information on the LID Principles Project, including public feedback from the public workshops, is located on the City's website at: <http://www.bellevuewa.gov/low-impact-development.htm>. Comments may also be left on the project webpage.

DISCUSSION

At Council's July 6, 2015 Study Session, the Council approved the LID Principles Project's interest statement, project principles, (a copy is included as Attachment B) and areas of focus for to explore opportunities to integrate LID principles into the City's development codes and standards. Also introduced at the Study Session was the Project's public participation plan. The Project Team returned on October 19 to update Council on the public participation activities, which had been initiated or completed. Since October 19, the Project Team held four public workshops, including an event designed to reach commercial developers, designers, and architects based on Council feedback:

Public Workshops

- September 30, 2015 - City Hall
- October 6, 2015 - Lewis Creek Visitor Center
- October 15, 2015 - Cherry Crest Elementary
- December 9, 2015 - City Hall - For development professionals.

With the conclusion of the first round of public participation, staff and the City's consultants developed proposed amendments, based on comments from the public, staff, boards, and commissions, to the Land Use Code, Clearing and Grading Code,

and Transportation Code and corresponding development standards to incorporate LID Principles into those development-related documents. The proposals were presented at three Open Houses and to the City's Planning Commission on May 25 to allow the public to ask questions and for the Project Team to receive feedback. The Open Houses occurred:

- May 17, 2016 - Bellevue City Hall
- May 18, 2016 - Lewis Creek Visitor Center
- May 19, 2016 - Northwest Arts Center

Work with the Planning and Transportation Commissions has begun with the goal of bringing recommendations to Council in early fall. The Project Team has Study Sessions scheduled with the Council through the fall to ensure the project is complete by December 31.

Next Steps: Staff and the City's consultants will meet with the Transportation and Planning Commissions to develop recommendations to integrate LID Principles into the City's development codes and standards. Any adopted amendments must be effective by December 31, 2016. To meet the deadline, the following meetings have been scheduled (*dates are tentative and subject to change).

- | | |
|---|------------------------|
| • Transportation Commission: | June 9 |
| • Study Session with Planning Commission: | June 22 |
| • Public Hearing | July 13 |
| • EBCC Courtesy Hearing | August 2 |
| • City Council Study Sessions | September 12 |
| | October 10 |
| | November 14 |
| | November 21 (Adoption) |
| • EBCC (Final Hearing) | December 6 |

ACTION REQUESTED OF THE EAST BELLEVUE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

No action is required of the EBCC at this time. Staff will be present at the June 7 meeting to answer any questions you may have.

Please contact me at 425-452-6134 or at cdrews@bellevuewa.gov if you have any questions before the June 7 meeting.

- Attachment A: Land Use Code Proposals:
- 1.1 20.20 General Development Standards
 - 1.2 20.20.900 Tree Retention Requirements
 - 1.3 20.25 Special and Overlay Districts
 - 1.4 Part 20.30D Planned Unit Development
 - 1.5 L-XX Landmark Trees Handout

Attachment B: LID PP Project Principles & Interest Statement

Abstract: This paper discusses the importance of the

Low Impact Development Principles Project



Chapter 20.20 General Development Requirements.

20.20.010 Uses in land use districts dimensional requirements.

Chart 20.20.010

Uses in land use districts Dimensional Requirements

STD LAND USE CODE REF	LAND USE CLASSIFICATION	RESIDENTIAL										
		R-1	R-1.8	R-2.5	R-3.5	R-4	R-5	R-7.5*	R-10	R-15	R-20	R-30
	DIMENSIONS	(43)	(43)	(43)	(43)	(43)	(43)	(43)				
	...											
	Maximum Lot Coverage by Structures (percent) (13) (14) (16) (26) (27) (37) (39)	35	35	35	35	35	40	40	35	35	35	35
	Maximum Impervious Surface (percent) (35) (37) (39) <u>(48)</u>	<u>50</u> <u>40</u> (36)	<u>50</u> <u>40</u> (36)	<u>50</u> <u>40</u> (36)	<u>50</u> <u>40</u> (36)	<u>50</u> <u>40</u> (36)	<u>55</u> <u>45</u> (36)	<u>55</u> <u>45</u> (36)	<u>80</u> <u>60</u>	<u>80</u> <u>60</u>	<u>80</u> <u>60</u>	<u>80</u> <u>60</u>
	<u>Maximum Hard Surface Coverage (percent) (37) (39) (47) (48)</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>80</u>

[...]

Low Impact Development Principles Project

[...]

Uses in land use districts Dimensional Requirements

STD LAND USE CODE REF	LAND USE CLASSIFICATION	Professional Office	Office	Office/Limited Business	Light Industry	General Commercial	Neighborhood Business	Community Business	Factoria Land Use District 1	Factoria Land Use District 2	Factoria Land Use District 3	Downtown Office 1	Downtown Office 2	Downtown Mixed Use District	Downtown Residential District	Downtown Old Bellevue District	Downtown Office and Limited Business District
		PO (8, 21)	O (8, 21)	OLB (8, 21)	LI (8, 21)	GC (8, 21)	NB (8, 21)	CB (8, 21)	F1 (28)	F2 (21, 31)	F3 (21, 32)	DNTN O-1 (7)	DNTN O-2 (7)	DNTN MU (7)	DNTN R (7)	DNTN OB (7)	DNTN OLB (7)
	DIMENSIONS																
	Maximum Lot Coverage by Structures (percent) (13) (14) (16)	35	35	35	50		35			35	40						
	Maximum Impervious Surface (percent) (35) (37)	80	80	80	85	85	80	85	85	80	80						
	Maximum Hard Surface Coverage (37) (47)	80	80	80	85	85	80	85	85	80	80						

[...]

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[...]

- (13) Lot coverage is calculated after subtracting all critical areas and stream critical area buffers; provided, that coal mine hazards (20.25H.130) and habitat associated with species of local importance (20.25H.150) shall not be subtracted.
- (14) Maximum lot coverage by structures is determined after public right-of-way and private roads are subtracted from the gross land area.

[...]

- (16) Exceptions to Lot Coverage. Although not considered structures for purposes of calculating lot coverage, the following may be considered impervious surfaces subject to the impervious surface limits. See LUC 20.20.460 and 20.50.026.
 - (a) Underground buildings as defined in LUC 20.50.050 are not structures for the purpose of calculating lot coverage.
 - (b) Buildings constructed partially below grade and not higher than 30 inches above existing or finished grade, whichever is lower, are not structures for the purpose of calculating lot coverage subject to the following conditions:
 - (i) The 30-inch height limit must be met at all points along the building excluding those areas necessary to provide reasonable ingress and egress to the underground portions of the building; and
 - (ii) The rooftop of the building shall be screened from abutting properties with 10 feet of Type II landscaping as described in LUC 20.20.520.G.2 except that the required trees shall be a minimum of 10 feet in height at planting; or, if a use is proposed for the rooftop, the rooftop may be landscaped consistent with the planting requirements for the specific use that is proposed and for the land use district in which the use is located. All landscaping shall comply with standards set forth in LUC 20.20.520. The provisions of LUC 20.20.520.J (Alternative Landscaping Option) are applicable.

[...]

- (26) See LUC 20.20.125 for specific requirements applicable to detached accessory structures.
- (27) Lot coverage for schools located in residential land use districts is limited to 35 percent of the site area (refer to LUC 20.20.740).

[...]

- (35) See LUC 20.20.460 for exceptions and performance standards relating to impervious surface.
- (36) Impervious surface limits for legally established nonconforming nonresidential uses and for new allowed nonresidential uses in these residential land use districts shall be 80 percent.

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(37) Maximum hard surface, maximum impervious surface and maximum lot coverage by structures are independent limitations on allowed development. All areas of lot coverage by structures are included in the calculation of total maximum impervious surface, unless such structures are excepted under LUC 20.20.460, and all areas of impervious surface coverage are included in the calculation of total maximum hard surface coverage.

[...]

(47) See LUC 20.20.425 for exceptions and performance standards relating to hard surfaces.

(47)(48) Where the application of permeable pavement has been determined to be infeasible using the infeasibility criteria in the 2014 Department of Ecology Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington, now or as hereafter amended, the maximum impervious surface coverage may be exceeded, up to the maximum hard surface coverage allotment.

[...]

20.20.025 Intrusions into required setbacks.

A. Signs, Marquees and Awnings.

1. See Sign Code, Chapter 22B.10 BCC.

B. Garages/Carports on Slopes.

1. If the topography of a lot is such that the front building line is eight feet or more above the street grade, and there is no reasonable way to construct a driveway up to the dwelling level, a garage/carport may be built into the bank and set at least five feet back from the front property line, except as set forth in subsection B.4 below.
2. If the topography of a lot is such that there is no reasonable way to construct a driveway with a slope less than 15 percent to the dwelling level, a garage/carport may be built in the front yard setback, LUC 20.20.010, subject to approval by the Director of the Development Services Department. The garage/carport must be set at least five feet back from the front lot line, and may not exceed 15 feet above street level measured to the peak of a pitched roof or nine feet above street level measured to the top of a flat roof. The garage/carport and its vehicular access must be located and oriented to minimize disturbance of the slope.
3. A garage/carport must comply with the street intersection sight obstruction requirements of BCC 14.60.240.
4. Notwithstanding any other provision of this subsection B to the contrary, a garage/carport may not be located within a critical area or critical area buffer unless allowed under Part 20.25H LUC.

C. Minor Building Elements.

Subject to LUC 20.20.025.C.3, minor building elements including patios, platforms, eaves, trellises, open beams, fireplace chimneys, decks, porches, balconies, lanais, bay windows, greenhouse windows and similar elements of a minor character may intrude into a required setback as follows:

1. Any portion of a minor building element which equals or exceeds 30 inches above finished grade at its location may intrude into a required setback a distance no greater than 20 percent of the minimum dimension of that setback, or at least 18 inches, whichever is greater.

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2. Any portion of a minor building element which is less than 30 inches above finished grade at its location may extend to any lot line.
3. Except for eaves, the combined length of all minor building elements which equal or exceed 30 inches above finished grade on any building facade shall not exceed 25 percent of the length of that facade.
4. Minor building elements may not be used to extend the enclosed building floor area into the required setback, except chimneys and bay windows protruding no more than 18 inches into the setback may extend to the finished grade at their location.
5. A minor building element may extend into a critical area structure setback required by LUC 20.25H.035 only if it is above the ground level and if vegetation will be maintained in a healthy condition. Solar access to vegetation must be maintained at least 50 percent of daylight hours during the normal growing season.

Note: Heat pumps are not minor building elements. Retaining walls and rockeries 30 inches or greater in height are not minor building elements.

D. Rockeries and Retaining Walls.

On a lot of less than 30,000 gross square feet or on any single-family lot, rockeries and retaining walls 30 inches or greater in height may extend into setbacks established by LUC 20.20.010; provided, that the existing grade change is such that no feasible alternative to location or height exists. In any event, the critical area buffer and structure setbacks of LUC 20.25H.035 apply.

E. Underground Buildings and Buildings Constructed Partially Below Grade.

1. Limitations. This subsection cannot be used to develop any building (including an underground building) which intrudes into critical areas, critical area buffers, or critical area structure setbacks required by Part 20.25H LUC.
2. Subject to the limitations contained in this subsection E, underground buildings may intrude in the required setback.
3. Subject to the limitations contained in this subsection E, buildings constructed partially below grade and not higher than 30 inches above existing or finished grade, whichever is lower, may intrude into required setbacks subject to the following conditions:
 - a. The 30-inch height limit must be met at all points along the building except those areas necessary to provide reasonable ingress and egress to the underground portions of the building; and
 - b. The rooftop of the building shall be screened from abutting properties with 10 feet of Type II landscaping as described in LUC 20.20.520.G.2 except that the required trees shall be a minimum of 10 feet in height at planting or, if a use is proposed for the rooftop, the rooftop may be landscaped consistent with the planting requirements for the specific use that is proposed and for the land use district in which the use is located. All landscaping shall comply with standards set forth in LUC 20.20.520. The provisions of LUC 20.20.520.J (Alternative Landscaping Option) are applicable. (Ord. 5683, 6-26-06, § 6; Ord. 5232, 7-17-00, § 3; Ord. 5089, 8-3-98, §§ 6, 7; Ord. 4973, 3-3-97, § 889; Ord. 4816, 12-4-95, § 989; Ord. 4654, 6-6-94, § 23; Ord. 3775, 5-26-87, § 8)

F. LID Elements. Where feasible, LID BMPs such as bioretention facilities may be located within setbacks required in LUC 20.20.010, provided they conform to the setback requirements in the City of Bellevue Storm and Surface Water Engineering Standards.

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[...]

20.20.425 Hard surface.

A. Purpose.

Limits on the total amount of hard surfaces associated with site development are desirable to minimize vegetation loss and limit stormwater runoff, which are impacted by the increased level of surface flow generated by hard surfaces. Live plant foliage and groundcover intercept stormwater by retaining or slowing the flow of precipitation to the ground, and their roots protect soil from erosion. Preservation of naturally vegetated areas is a passive stormwater management tool that effectively reduces watershed function deterioration.

B. Applicability.

Hard surfaces are defined in LUC 20.50, and shall include all surfaces considered impervious under 20.20.460, as well as permeable pavement surfaces and vegetated roofs. The hard surface limits contained in LUC 20.20.010 and the standards of this section, shall be imposed any time a permit, approval, or review including land alteration or land development including subdivisions, short subdivisions or planned unit developments, a change in lot coverage, or a change in the area devoted to parking and circulation is required by this Code, or by the International Building Code.

C. Exemptions.

The following are exempted from determining maximum hard surface. These exemptions do not apply to any other Land Use Code requirement, including setbacks and limits on maximum lot coverage by structure, building code, utilities code or other applicable City of Bellevue codes or regulations.

1. Decks/Platforms. Decks and platforms constructed with gaps measuring one-eighth inch or greater between boards, so long as the surface below the deck or platform is pervious;
2. Rockeries/Retaining Walls. Rockeries and retaining walls shall be exempt from the maximum impervious surface limits;
3. Stabilization Measures. Shoreline stabilization measures shall be exempt from the maximum impervious surface limits; and
4. Landscape Features. Fences, arbors with lattice or open roof materials and similar structures, individual stepping stones placed in the ground but not cemented or held together with an impervious material, and organic mulch shall be exempt from the maximum impervious surface limits.

D. Performance Standards.

1. Design shall minimize topographic modification. Changes in existing grade outside the building footprint shall be minimized. Excavation shall not exceed 10 feet. Fill shall not exceed five feet subject to the following provisions: all fill in excess of four feet shall be engineered; and engineered fill may be approved in exceptional circumstances to exceed five feet to a maximum of eight feet. Exceptional circumstances are: (1) instances where driveway access would exceed

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15 percent slope if additional fill retained by the building foundation is not permitted; or (2) where the five-foot fill maximum generally is observed but limited additional fill is necessary to accommodate localized variations in topography.

2. High-value natural areas, which include, but are not limited to retained significant trees and their understory and areas of native vegetation, shall be identified during site development. Locations of buildings, roads and infrastructure shall not impact high-value natural areas. Retained significant trees and their understory, and areas of native vegetation shall be fenced and adequately protected during construction, consistent with the provisions in BCC 23.76. Native plants should be salvaged from areas to be cleared and transplanted to other areas of the site where feasible.

E. Maintenance and Assurance.

1. Pervious pavement and other hard surface techniques designed to mimic shall be designed by a professional engineer licensed by the State of Washington and the plans are approved by the Director. The Director may require a maintenance plan and long-term performance assurance device to ensure the continued function of the pervious pavement or other technique.

[...]

20.20.460 Impervious surface.

A. Purpose.

Limits on the total amount of impervious surfaces associated with site development are desirable to protect critical areas and limit stormwater runoff, which are impacted by the increased levels and rates of surface flow generated by impervious surfaces.

B. Applicability.

The impervious surface limits contained in LUC 20.20.010 and Chapter 20.25 LUC, and the standards of this section, shall be imposed any time a permit, approval, or review including land alteration or land development including subdivisions, short subdivisions or planned unit developments, a change in lot coverage, or a change in the area devoted to parking and circulation is required by this Code, or by the International Building Code.

~~C. Modifications to Impervious Surface Limits.~~

~~The impervious surface limits contained in LUC 20.20.010 and Chapter 20.25 LUC may be modified pursuant to a critical areas report, LUC 20.25H.230, so long as the critical areas report demonstrates that the effective impervious surface on the site does not exceed the limit established in LUC 20.20.010 and Chapter 20.25 LUC.~~

- ~~1. Garages on sites sloping uphill should be placed below the main floor elevation where feasible to reduce grading and to fit structures into existing topography. Garages on sites sloping downhill from the street may be required to be placed as close to the right-of-way as feasible and at or near street grade. Intrusion into the front setback, as provided in LUC 20.20.025-B,~~

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~~may be required. On slopes in excess of 25 percent, driveways shall be designed to minimize disturbance and should provide the most direct connection between the building and the public or private street; and~~

- ~~2. Changes in existing grade outside the building footprint shall be minimized. Excavation shall not exceed 10 feet. Fill shall not exceed five feet subject to the following provisions: all fill in excess of four feet shall be engineered; and engineered fill may be approved in exceptional circumstances to exceed five feet to a maximum of eight feet. Exceptional circumstances are: (1) instances where driveway access would exceed 15 percent slope if additional fill retained by the building foundation is not permitted; or (2) where the five-foot fill maximum generally is observed but limited additional fill is necessary to accommodate localized variations in topography.~~

D.C. Exemptions.

The following are exempted from determining maximum impervious surface. These exemptions do not apply to any other Land Use Code requirement, including setbacks and limits on maximum lot coverage by structure, building code, utilities code or other applicable City of Bellevue codes or regulations.

1. Decks/Platforms. Decks and platforms constructed with gaps measuring one-eighth inch or greater between boards, so long as the surface below the deck or platform is pervious;
2. Rockeries/Retaining Walls. Rockeries and retaining walls shall be exempt from the maximum impervious surface limits;
3. Stabilization Measures. Shoreline stabilization measures shall be exempt from the maximum impervious surface limits; and
4. Landscape Features. Fences, arbors with lattice or open roof materials and similar structures, individual stepping stones placed in the ground but not cemented or held together with an impervious material, and gravel mulch shall be exempt from the maximum impervious surface limits.

E.D. Performance Standards.

1. Design shall minimize topographic modification. Structures shall conform to the natural contour of the slope. The foundation shall be tiered to conform to the existing topography and step down the slope with earth retention incorporated into the structure where feasible. Standard prepared building pads, i.e., slab on grade, shall be avoided; and
2. Garages on sites sloping uphill should be placed below the main floor elevation where feasible to reduce grading and to fit structures into existing topography. Garages on sites sloping downhill from the street may be required to be placed as close to the right-of-way as feasible and at or near street grade. Intrusion into the front setback, as provided in LUC 20.20.025.B, may be required. On slopes in excess of 25 percent, driveways shall be designed to minimize disturbance and should provide the most direct connection between the building and the public or private street; and

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3. Changes in existing grade outside the building footprint shall be minimized. Excavation shall not exceed 10 feet. Fill shall not exceed five feet subject to the following provisions: all fill in excess of four feet shall be engineered; and engineered fill may be approved in exceptional circumstances to exceed five feet to a maximum of eight feet. Exceptional circumstances are: (1) instances where driveway access would exceed 15 percent slope if additional fill retained by the building foundation is not permitted; or (2) where the five-foot fill maximum generally is observed but limited additional fill is necessary to accommodate localized variations in topography.

F.E. Existing Impervious Surfaces.

Impervious surfaces legally established on a site prior to **August 1, 2006**, and which exceed the limits set forth in LUC 20.20.010 and Chapter 20.25 LUC shall not be considered nonconforming. Proposals to increase impervious surface on a site shall conform to the limits of LUC 20.20.010 and Chapter 20.25 LUC; where a site already exceeds the allowed amount of impervious surface, the additional impervious surface shall not be approved unless an equal amount of existing impervious surface is removed such that the net amount of impervious surface is unchanged.

G.F. Innovative Techniques.

Surfaces paved with ~~pervious-permeable~~ pavement or other innovative techniques designed to mimic the function of a pervious surface shall not be included in the calculation of impervious surface areas, however, they shall be included in the calculation of maximum hard surface areas, not including the exemptions listed in LUC 20.20.425.D. so long as the technique is designed by a professional engineer licensed by the State of Washington and the plans are approved by the Director. The Director may require a maintenance plan and long term performance assurance device to ensure the continued function of the pervious pavement or other technique. (Ord. 5876, 5-18-09, § 13; Ord. 5683, 6-26-06, § 9)

[...]

20.20.520 Landscape development.

[...]

B. Applicability.

The requirements of this section shall be imposed any time a permit, approval, or review including land alteration or land development including subdivisions, short subdivisions or planned unit developments, a change in lot coverage or impervious surface, or a change in the area devoted to parking and circulation is required by this Code, or by the International Building Code, as adopted and amended by the City of Bellevue. However, this section does not apply to a permit for a single-family dwelling, unless restrictions on the removal of significant trees on individual single-family lots have been imposed through prior City approval.

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[...]

F. Site Landscaping

[...]

6. Existing Vegetation in Lieu of Landscape Development. If the proposal is located within the Critical Areas Overlay District, the Director shall waive the planting requirements of paragraphs F.1 and F.2 of this section and shall require the use of native vegetation that exists within a critical area or within a critical area buffer in lieu of landscape development if the width of that existing vegetated area equals at least twice the dimension required by paragraph F.1 or F.2 of this section. Supplemental landscaping may be added adjacent to a setback to create the necessary width.

[...]

- I. Species Choice. The applicant shall utilize plant materials which complement the natural character of the Pacific Northwest, and which are adaptable to the climatic, topographic, and hydrologic characteristics of the site, and shall include at least 50 percent native species in the required plantings. If the subject property is within the Critical Areas Overlay District, the applicant shall utilize plant species as specified by the Director which enhance that critical area and critical area buffer. In selecting species, the applicant should utilize plant materials which reduce or eliminate the need for fertilizers, herbicides, or other chemical controls, especially for properties within the Critical Areas Overlay District. Plant materials may not include noxious weeds or species, as designated by the Director.

J. Alternative Landscaping Option.

1. The applicant may request a modification of the landscaping requirements set forth in subsections E through I of this section; provided, however, that modification of the provisions of paragraph F.6 of this section may not allow disturbance of a critical area or critical area buffer.
2. The Director may administratively approve a modification of the landscaping requirements of this chapter if:
 - a. The proposed landscaping represents an equal or better result than that which could be achieved by strictly following the requirements of this section; and
 - b. The proposed landscaping complies with the stated purpose of this section (subsection A), and with the purpose and intent of paragraphs F.1 and G of this section; and
 - c. If a modification of any paragraph excluding subsection E of this section is requested, the proposed landscaping either:
 - i. Incorporates the increased retention of significant trees and naturally occurring undergrowth; or

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- ii. Better accommodates or improves the existing physical conditions of the subject property; or
 - iii. Incorporates elements to provide for wind protection or to maintain solar access; or
 - iv. Incorporates elements to protect or improve water quality; or
 - v. Incorporates native species in a design that better buffers a critical area and critical area buffer from uses on the site, including parking.
- d. If a modification of subsection E of this section is requested, the proposal either:
 - i. Incorporates the retention of significant trees equal in number to what would otherwise be required, or
 - ii. Incorporates the retention of other natural vegetation in consolidated locations which promotes the natural vegetated character of the site.
- 3. Effect of Approval. Following approval of alternative landscaping by the Director, the applicant may meet the landscaping requirements of this Code by complying with the approved landscape development proposal. A copy of the approved landscape development proposal will be placed in the official file.

[...]

20.20.590 Parking, circulation, and walkway requirements.

[...]

K. Parking Area and Circulation Improvements and Design

[...]

8. Internal Walkways

[...]

- c. Design Criteria. Except as otherwise specified in Part 20.25A LUC, internal walkways provided pursuant to this section must be designed and installed in conformance with the following:
 - i. Surface Materials. Internal walkways must be paved with hard-surfaced material such as concrete, asphalt, stone, brick, tile, pervious pavement, etc. Only nonskid paving may be used in walkways construction.

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1. The project shall be designed to be consistent with the following principles of low impact development:
 - a. Incorporate design elements to provide for water infiltration and storage on-site.
 - b. Incorporate design elements to provide for water infiltration and storage on-site.
 - c. Incorporate design elements to provide for water infiltration and storage on-site.
 - d. Incorporate design elements to provide for water infiltration and storage on-site.
 - e. Incorporate design elements to provide for water infiltration and storage on-site.
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 - j. Incorporate design elements to provide for water infiltration and storage on-site.
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 - q. Incorporate design elements to provide for water infiltration and storage on-site.
 - r. Incorporate design elements to provide for water infiltration and storage on-site.
 - s. Incorporate design elements to provide for water infiltration and storage on-site.
 - t. Incorporate design elements to provide for water infiltration and storage on-site.
 - u. Incorporate design elements to provide for water infiltration and storage on-site.
 - v. Incorporate design elements to provide for water infiltration and storage on-site.
 - w. Incorporate design elements to provide for water infiltration and storage on-site.
 - x. Incorporate design elements to provide for water infiltration and storage on-site.
 - y. Incorporate design elements to provide for water infiltration and storage on-site.
 - z. Incorporate design elements to provide for water infiltration and storage on-site.

10. To 500 feet of distance, and water infiltration elements.

11. To 500 feet of distance, and water infiltration elements.

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20.20.900 Tree retention and replacement.

A. Purpose.

Retention of significant trees as required by this section is necessary to maintain and protect property values, to enhance the visual appearance of the City, to preserve the natural wooded character of the Pacific Northwest, to promote utilization of natural systems, to reduce the impacts of development on the storm drainage system and water resources, and to provide a better transition between the various land uses permitted in the City.

B. Applicability.

The requirements of this section shall be imposed any time a permit, approval, or review including land alteration or land development including subdivisions, short subdivisions or planned unit developments, a change in lot coverage, or a change in the area devoted to parking and circulation is required by the Bellevue City Code or Land Use Code. Subsection F of this section shall apply to permits for new single-family structures and for additions to impervious surface areas that exceed 20 percent when located on a single-family lot developed with a residential use. Subsection E of this section applies to the removal of any significant trees in the R-1 Land Use District located in the Bridle Trails Subarea.

C. Required Review.

The Development Services Department shall review the proposed removal of significant trees with each application within the applicability of this section.

D. Retention of Significant Trees for Subdivisions, Short Subdivisions, Planned Unit Development, Change in Lot Coverage, or Change in the Area Devoted to Parking and Circulation, Excluding Areas Located in the R-1 Land Use District in the Bridle Trails Subarea and for New or Expanding Single-Family Structures.

1. Perimeter Landscaping Area. In the required perimeter landscaping area, as set forth in LUC 20.20.520.F.1, the applicant shall retain all significant trees which will not constitute a safety hazard. For properties located in Bel-Red Land Use Districts, refer to perimeter landscape development at LUC 20.25D.110. Area devoted to access and sight areas as defined in the Transportation Code (Chapter 14.06 BCC) and area to be cleared for required roads, utilities, sidewalks, trails, or storm drainage improvements are exempt from this requirement.

2. Site Interior.

- a. In areas of the site other than the required perimeter landscaping area, the applicant must retain at least 15 percent of the diameter inches of the significant trees existing in this area; provided, that alder and cottonwood trees' diameter inches shall be discounted by a factor of 0.5. In the event of a conflict between this section at and LUC 20.25H "Critical Areas Overlay, section 20.25H

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shall prevail. In applying the requirement for retention of significant trees, the Director shall ~~consider~~ require the preservation of the following types of significant trees in the following order of a-priority:

- i. Landmark trees as defined in LUC 20.50;
 - ~~i.ii.~~ Healthy ~~Significant trees over 60 feet in height;~~
 - ~~ii.iii.~~ Significant trees which form a continuous canopy;
 - iv. Significant trees located within the required rear yard, and the area between the rear line of the rear yard and 15 feet from the nearest building envelope; and;
 - ~~iii.v.~~ Significant trees which ~~contribute to the character of the environment, and~~ do not constitute a safety hazard;
 - ~~iv.~~ Significant trees which provide winter wind protection or summer shade;
 - ~~v.~~ Groups of significant trees which create a distinctive skyline feature; and
 - ~~vi.~~ Significant trees in areas of steep slopes or adjacent to watercourses or wetlands.
- b. The Director may approve retention of trees which do not meet the definition of significant trees as a contribution toward the sum of the diameter inches required under subsection D.2.a of this section if a group of trees and its associated undergrowth can be preserved.
3. For subdivisions, short subdivisions, and planned unit developments, the applicant shall retain a minimum of 30 percent of the diameter inches of significant trees existing on the total site area of the development; provided, that alder and cottonwood trees' diameter inches shall be discounted by a factor of 0.5. Priority of preservation of the following types of trees shall occur in the same order as specified above for the site interior.
4. Exemption. The provisions of this subsection which require retention of significant trees are not applicable in any Downtown Land Use District.
5. The applicant shall utilize tree protection techniques approved by the Director during land alteration and construction in order to provide for the continual healthy life of retained significant trees. The director may require assurance devices pursuant to 20.40.490 to ensure the continual healthy life of retained significant trees for a period of up to five years.
- 5.6. Any property where significant trees are retained to meet the requirements of this chapter shall include notice of the retained trees on the recorded survey, and shall include a reference to this section to ensure their continued retention.

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6.7. **Reduced Parking Bonus.** If the proposed landscape plan incorporates the retention of significant trees above that required by this section, the Director may approve a reduction of up to 10 percent of the required number of parking spaces if adequate parking will remain on the subject property, and if land area for the required number of spaces remains available for future development on the subject property.

E. Retention of Significant Trees in the R-1 Land Use District in the Bridle Trails Subarea for any Type of Land Alteration or Development.

1. **Permit Required.** As required by BCC 23.76.035.A.8, a clearing and grading permit must be obtained from the City prior to the removal of any significant tree from any lot in the R-1 Land Use District in the Bridle Trails Subarea. The applicant may request a vegetation management plan to cover all proposed tree removal activities within a three-year period. In addition, for the removal of more than two significant trees within any three-year period, the requirements of subsections E.2 and E.3 of this section apply.
2. **Perimeter Tree Retention Requirement.** For all lots in the R-1 Land Use District in the Bridle Trails Subarea, all significant trees which do not constitute a safety hazard within the first 20 feet adjacent to all property lines shall be retained. Area devoted to access and sight areas as defined in the Transportation Code (Chapter 14.06 BCC), and area to be cleared for required roads, utilities, sidewalks, trails, or storm drainage improvements is exempt from this requirement. In the event this requirement conflicts with minimum setback requirements for structures (LUC 20.20.010), the Alternative Tree Retention Option (subsection G of this section) may be used to allow development consistent with the setbacks established under LUC 20.20.010.
3. **Site Interior Tree Retention Requirement.**
 - a. In addition to the required perimeter tree retention area, at least 25 percent of the cumulative diameter inches of existing significant trees must be retained; provided, that alder and cottonwood trees' diameter inches shall be discounted by a factor of 0.5.
 - b. The Director may approve retention of trees which do not meet the definition of significant trees as a contribution toward the sum of the diameter inches required under subsection E.3.a of this section if a group of trees and its associated undergrowth can be preserved.
4. **Tree Replacement Requirement.** On any lot with eight or less significant trees, a planting plan showing a one-to-one ratio of replacement trees is required. Trees must be a minimum of six feet in height at planting.

F. Retention of Significant Trees for New or Expanding Single-Family Structures Excluding Single-Family Structures Located in the R-1 Land Use District in the Bridle Trails Subarea.

1. **Site Area.** For new single-family structures or additions to impervious surface areas that exceed 20 percent when located on a single-family lot developed with a residential use,

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the applicant shall retain a minimum of 30 percent of the diameter inches of significant trees existing in the site area; provided, that alder and cottonwood trees' diameter inches shall be discounted by a factor of 0.5. In the event of a conflict between this section and LUC 20.25H "Critical Areas Overlay, section 20.25H shall prevail. In applying the requirement for retention of significant trees, the Director shall ~~consider~~ require the preservation of the following types of significant trees in the following order of priority:

a. Landmark trees as defined in LUC 20.50;

~~a-b. Healthy-~~Significant trees over 60 feet in height;

~~b-c.~~ Significant trees which form a continuous canopy;

d. Significant trees located within the required rear yard, and the area between the rear line of the rear yard and 15 feet from the nearest building envelope.

e. Significant trees located within the first 20 feet adjacent to a property line.

f. Significant trees which contribute to the character of the environment, and do not constitute a safety hazard;

~~e. Significant trees which provide winter wind protection or summer shade;~~

~~d. Groups of significant trees which create a distinctive skyline feature;~~

~~e. Significant trees in areas of steep slopes or adjacent to watercourses or wetlands; and~~

~~f-a. Significant trees located within the first 20 feet adjacent to a property line.~~

2. The Director may approve retention of trees which do not meet the definition of significant trees as a contribution toward the sum of the diameter inches required under LUC 20.20.900.F.1 if a group of trees and its associated undergrowth can be preserved.
3. The applicant shall utilize tree protection techniques approved by the Director during land alteration and construction in order to provide for the continual healthy life of retained significant trees.

G. Alternative Tree Retention or Replacement Option.

1. An applicant may request a modification of the tree retention requirements set forth in subsections D, E, and F of this section.
2. The Director may administratively approve a modification of the perimeter or interior tree retention requirements if:
 - a. The modification is consistent with the stated purpose of this section; and
 - b. The modification proposal either:
 - i. Incorporates the retention or replacement of significant trees equal in equivalent diameter inches or incorporates the increased retention or replacement of significant trees and naturally occurring undergrowth to what would otherwise be required; or

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- ii. Incorporates the retention or replacement of other natural vegetation in consolidated locations which promotes the natural vegetated character of the site and neighborhood including use as pasture land or for agricultural uses.
- iii. Where a modification proposal includes supplemental or replacement trees in lieu of retention, the applicant shall utilize plant materials which complement the natural character of the Pacific Northwest, and which are adaptable to the climatic, topographic, and hydrologic characteristics of the site. (Ord. 6197, 11-17-14, § 15; Ord. 5896, 8-3-09, § 3; Ord. 5876, 5-18-09, § 22; Ord. 5791, 12-3-07, § 14; Ord. 5662, 3-20-06, § 2)

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Chapter 20.25 Special and Overlay Districts

Part 20.25A Downtown

[...]

20.25A.060 Walkways and sidewalks.

[...]

B. Street Trees Required – Perimeter.

1. The property owner shall install street trees and other required vegetation, in addition to any landscaping required by LUC 20.25A.040, according to the requirements of Plate B and this section or as approved by the Director unless, upon the request of the applicant, minor modification is approved by the Director.
2. Except for the streets listed in paragraph A.2 of this section, the area in which street trees are planted must be at least four feet wide, and located between the street improvement and the walkway or sidewalk unless precluded by existing utilities which cannot reasonably be relocated. Any street tree planting area must be at least four feet by six feet or five feet by five feet or smaller area as approved by the Director, unless upon request of the applicant minor modification of this requirement is approved by the Director, and protected by an approved decorative grate. This grate may intrude into the sidewalk.
3. Street trees, at least three inches in caliper or as approved by the Director, must be planted at least three feet from the street curb, and a maximum of 25 feet on center, unless upon request of the applicant minor modification of this requirement is approved by the Director, and conforms to the sight distance requirements of BCC 14.60.240. A street tree planting area may also include decorative paving and other plant materials except turf. Where feasible, bioretention swales and planters may be located within the planter strip.
4. On the streets listed in paragraph A.2 of this section, street trees shall be planted and placed as required in paragraph B.3 of this section. These required street trees together with shrubbery, groundcover and other approved plantings are required in a planter strip along the length of the frontage. Designs should prioritize the selection of native plant species. The use of native vegetation is strongly preferred. The planter strip must be at least four feet wide, unless a smaller width is approved by the Director. Vegetation included in the planter strip shall be urban in character, shall be compatible with other plantings along the same street, and shall reflect the character of the area within which they are planted, as approved by the Director.

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20.25A.090 Perimeter Design District

[...]

D. Development Standards

[...]

4. Landscape Development

[...]

b. Linear Buffers.

- i. General. Any development situated within Perimeter Design District – Subdistrict A shall provide a “linear buffer” within the minimum setback adjacent to the Downtown boundary required by paragraph D.2 of this section. The purpose of this feature is to produce a green buffer that will soften the visual impact of the relatively larger buildings. These design standards are minimum requirements for the size and quantity of trees, shrubs and other “linear buffer” elements. The specific design of the “linear buffer” for each project site will be determined through the Design Review Process. Design considerations include but are not limited to the placement of elements and their relationship to adjacent property as well as to the proposed development. Different sets of design standards apply to each of the locational conditions.
- ii. Where the Downtown boundary falls within the Main Street, 100th Avenue NE or NE 12th Street right-of-way, the minimum setback from the Downtown boundary shall be landscaped according to the basic requirements and either Alternative A or B of the supplemental requirement.
 - (1) Basic Requirements (applicable in all cases):
 - (a) Must have a minimum width of 20 feet;
 - (b) Must abut and be within three feet in elevation of a sidewalk, so as to be visually and physically accessible;
 - (c) Must provide at least one sitting space for each 200 square feet of the perimeter setback area;
 - (d) May not be used for parking; vehicular access drives shall be kept to a minimum;
 - (e) Must be readily accessible to the public at all times;
 - ~~(f)~~ Must include seasonal color in an amount of at least 10 percent of the perimeter setback area;
 - ~~(f)~~(g) Must utilize native species for at least 50 percent of the plantings located within the perimeter setback area.
 - (2) Supplemental Requirements:

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- (a) Alternative A:
 - (i) Three deciduous trees, with a minimum caliper of three inches, per each 1,000 square feet of the perimeter setback area; and
 - (v) Planting area must either be raised or sloped. If raised, the planting area shall be surrounded by a wall with a minimum height of 18 inches and a maximum height of 24 inches to allow for sitting.
- (b) Alternative B:
 - (i) Three deciduous trees, with a minimum caliper of three inches, per each 1,000 square feet of the perimeter setback area; and
 - (ii) Lawn greater than five feet in width or ground cover on at least 25 percent of the perimeter setback area; and
 - (iii) Any paved surfaces shall be no more than 75 percent of the perimeter setback area; and
 - (iv) Paved areas shall use pervious pavement, brick, stone or tile in a pattern and texture that is level and slip-resistant; and
 - (v) Opportunities for pedestrian flow from the sidewalk shall be frequent and direct. Changes in grade between the linear buffer and sidewalk shall be accommodated by steps or terraces, rather than walls.
- iii. Where the Downtown boundary abuts property outside the Downtown other than right-of-way described in paragraph D.4.b.ii of this section, the minimum setback from the Downtown boundary (or perimeter property lines when the setback has been relocated pursuant to Note 10 of subsection 20.25A.090.D.2) shall be landscaped as follows:
 - (1) The entire setback (20 feet) shall be planted. No portion may be paved except for vehicular entrance drives and required mid-block pedestrian connections.
 - (2) The setback must incorporate a berm having a minimum height of three and one-half feet.
 - (3) The setback must be planted with:
 - (a) Evergreen and deciduous trees, with no more than 30 percent deciduous, a minimum of 10 feet in height, at intervals no greater than 20 feet on center; and
 - (b) Evergreen shrubs, a minimum of two-gallon in size, at a spacing of three feet on center; and
 - (c) Living ground cover so that the entire remaining area will be covered in three years.
- c. Street Trees. Street trees required by LUC 20.25A.060.C along Main Street, 100th Avenue NE or NE 12th Street must be at least four inches in caliper.

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20.25A.110 Design Review Criteria

B. Downtown Patterns and Context.

[...]

2. Landscape Design

[...]

- d. Encourage Require retention of significant existing vegetation, where it can be incorporated into efficient site design and maintained in a safe and healthful condition.

Part 20.25B Transition Area Design District

20.25B.040 Development Standards

[...]

C. Landscaping, Open Space and Buffers

1. Landscaping. All landscaping shall comply with standards set forth in LUC 20.20.520. The provisions of LUC 20.20.520.J (Alternative Landscaping Option) are applicable and, in addition, may be used to modify up to 10 feet of required street frontage landscaping.
2. Buffer
 - a. A landscaped buffer, at least 20 feet in width, shall be provided along the entire street frontage where any portion of the street frontage is abutting a district receiving transition and along the interior property line abutting the district receiving transition. Where feasible, bioretention swales and planters may be located within landscape buffers. This buffer can double as a bioretention planter.
 - b. All significant trees within 15 feet of the property line shall be retained as required by LUC 20.20.520.E.
 - c. The buffer shall be planted with the following, and shall include at least 50 percent native species in the required plantings:
 - i. Evergreen and deciduous trees, of which no more than 40 percent can be deciduous. There shall be a minimum of five trees per 1,000 square feet of buffer area, which shall be a minimum of 10 feet high at planting, along with the evergreen shrubs and living groundcover as described in paragraphs C.2.c.ii and iii of this section to effectively buffer development from adjacent residential properties; and
 - ii. Evergreen shrubs, a minimum 42 inches in height at planting, at a spacing no greater than three feet on center; and
 - iii. Living groundcover planted to cover the ground within three years; and
 - iv. Alternatively, where the street frontage landscaping will be planted to buffer a building elevation and not a parking area, driveway or site development other than a building, a lawn no less than five feet in width may be substituted for the shrubs and

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groundcover required in paragraphs C.2.c.ii and iii of this section; provided, that the soil in the entire area of lawn is amended in accordance with LUC 20.20.520.F.8. This paragraph does not apply in LI and GC Districts.

- d. Where an LI, GC or CB zoned property abuts a residential district on an interior property line, an evergreen hedge a minimum of four feet in height at planting and capable of achieving a continued visual screen with a height of five feet within a three-year period or a combination of shrubs and fence shall be added within the required planting area to achieve the effect of a hedge.
- e. Patios and other similar ground level features and trails may be incorporated into the buffer area, except that no more than 20 percent of the area may be used for such features. Patios shall not be located within 10 feet of the property line.

[...]

Part 20.25D Bel-Red

[...]

20.25D.150 Design Guidelines

[...]

A. Character and Site Guidelines.

1. Integrate the Natural Environment.

a. Intent.

Reinforce linkages and orient buildings to the Bel-Red Subarea's natural and landscaped features.

b. Guideline.

Site and building design should capitalize on significant elements of the natural environment, Highland Community Park and planned park and open space, riparian corridors and wetlands. Designs should incorporate open space amenities for residents, employees and visitors. Depending on the location, this may be accomplished through integration of the natural environment with new development or providing a smooth transition between the natural and built environments.

c. Recommended.

- i. Active and passive gathering places and walkways oriented toward parks and open, natural spaces.
- ii. Clear and convenient public access to open space amenities.
- iii. Elements that engage the natural environment where the sight, sound and feel of nature can be directly experienced.

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- iv. Buildings sited to take maximum advantage of adjacent public amenities.
- v. Walkways and plazas paved with high-quality materials (such as brick or stone), and other architectural elements that use materials, colors and forms that are harmonious with the natural surroundings.
- d. Not recommended.
 - i. Buildings that turn their back on open space amenities.
 - ii. Stands of “native” planting schemes within large, automobile-oriented parking lots.

[...]

4. Protect and Enhance Surface Water Resources.

- a. Intent.
Conserve water quality, natural hydrology and habitat, and preserve biodiversity through protection of water bodies and wetlands.
- b. Guideline.
Natural water systems regulate water supply, provide biological habitat and may provide recreational opportunities. Undeveloped ecosystems absorb the precipitation and convey only a small portion of rainfall as surface runoff. New and infill development should minimize disturbances to the on-site, adjacent, and regional natural water systems. Use of natural drainage practices are required unless infeasible.
- c. Recommended.
 - i. Grading and plan layout that captures and slows runoff.
 - ii. Pervious or semi-pervious surfaces that allow water to infiltrate soil.
 - ~~iii. On-site landscape-based water treatment methods that treat rainwater runoff from all surfaces, including parking lots, roofs and sidewalks.~~
- d. Not Recommended.
 - i. Buried, piped or culverted stream channels.
 - ii. Water quality enhancement projects that detract from the urban character of the area.

[...]

Part 20.25F Evergreen Highlands Design District

20.25F.040 Site and Design Requirements

C. Design Requirements

[...]

2. Landscaping and Vegetation Preservation.

- a. The applicant must provide landscaping between structures, as a setting for structures, and within and around parking areas. This landscaping must enhance the coordinated

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project design, and provide a pleasing environment between structures. All pervious surface must be landscaped, except those areas specified under other provisions of this Code for natural vegetation, or determined by the Technical Committee as desirable for retention in its natural state.

- b. If landscaping is located between uses, the type and intensity of planting must reflect the variation in use category and intensity. The larger the variation, the more the planting must serve as a solid screen.
- c. Particular attention must be given to street frontage landscaping which will visually separate the development from the street, and create a soft edge condition.
- d. Landscaping shall create a setting which enhances pedestrian use of open space and which provides a sense of place and scale for the proposed development.
- e. A significant number of trees at least 12 feet to 14 feet in height or two and one-half inches to three inches in caliper, in conformance with the American Standard for Nursery Stock, and predominantly evergreen, must be included in each planted area. Caliper is measured four feet above existing grade. Shrubs at least three and one-half feet in height along a parking area or site perimeter and at least two feet in height at any other location must be interspersed among the trees, and the majority of the remaining area planted with living ground cover so that the ground will be covered in three years.
- f. Wherever practical and consistent with proposed site design, tree line and existing trees at least six inches in caliper must be retained. Caliper is measured four feet above existing grade. Tree protection techniques, approved by the Technical Committee must be utilized during construction. Where changes in grade have occurred, permanent tree preservation methods, approved by the Technical Committee must be utilized.
- g. The applicant must install street trees at least three inches in caliper along the street frontage. Caliper is measured four feet above existing grade. The location and species installed are subject to approval of the Technical Committee.
- h. The applicant must install interior parking area landscaping equal to at least 10 percent of the area devoted to parking and circulation. Planting areas must be at least 100 square feet and no more than 1,000 square feet. The minimum dimension in any direction is four feet. Each planting area must contain at least one tree combined with shrubs and ground cover which meet the minimum size requirements of paragraph C.2.e of this section.

[...]

4. Drainage

The applicant must submit a drainage plan consistent with the development standards of the City of Redmond and the City of Bellevue which produce the more protective drainage

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system as determined by the Redmond Public Works Director and the Bellevue Utilities Director. The use of LID stormwater management techniques ~~are~~is required unless infeasible.

[...]

Part 20.25F1 Factoria 1

20.25F1.070 Sidewalks and Pedestrian Paths

A. Perimeter Sidewalks.

1. Minimum Width. The minimum width of perimeter street sidewalks shall be 12 feet inclusive of the planter strip plus six inches for curb, except as necessary to retain mature trees pursuant to paragraph A.2.e below.
2. Street Trees And Planter Strip Design.
 - a. Installation. The property owner shall install street trees and planter strips, in addition to any landscaping required by LUC 20.25F1.050, pursuant to the City of Bellevue Environmental Best Management Practices and Design Standards, now or as hereafter amended. Street tree and planter strips shall be irrigated. Appropriate tree species will be determined through the Master Development Plan process.
 - b. Location. The area in which planter strips are installed must be located between the street and the sidewalk unless precluded by existing utilities which cannot reasonably be relocated or as necessary to retain mature trees pursuant to paragraph A.2.e below.
 - c. Design. Required street trees should be placed in predominantly continuous planter strips together with shrubbery, ground cover and other plantings approved by the Director. The area in which street trees are planted must be at least four feet wide by six feet wide. Vegetation approved for a planter strip must be compatible with the F1 Design Guidelines for the development area within which the planter strip is located. A street planter strip may also include decorative paving and other plant materials except turf. Where feasible, bioretention swales and planters may be located within the planter strip.
 - d. Size and Spacing. Large growing deciduous street trees, at least three inches in caliper or as approved by the Director, shall be planted at least three feet from the street curb, and a maximum of 30 feet on center, and shall conform to the sight distance requirements of BCC 14.60.240.
 - e. Mature Tree Retention. The existing mature street trees located on the perimeter street frontages shall be maintained to the extent feasible. Sidewalks and planter strips may be reduced and/or relocated to the back of sidewalk if necessary to accommodate retention of the mature trees.

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B. On-Site Sidewalks.

1. **Minimum Width.** The minimum width of on-site street sidewalks shall be 12 feet inclusive of the street tree planting wells.
2. **Street Trees and Plantings.**
 - a. **Installation.** The property owner shall install street trees and plantings, in addition to any landscaping required by LUC 20.25F1.050, pursuant to the City of Bellevue Environmental Best Management Practices and Design Standards, now or as hereafter amended. Street trees and required landscaping shall be irrigated. Appropriate tree species will be determined through the Master Development Plan process.
 - b. **Location.** Street trees shall be planted in a continuous, rhythmic pattern. Street trees must be located between the street and the sidewalk.
 - c. **Design.** Required street trees shall be planted in tree pits with grates. The area in which street trees are planted must be at least four feet wide by six feet wide. Street grates are not required if street trees are planted as part of a bioretention facility.
 - d. **Size and Spacing.** Small growing pedestrian-scale deciduous street trees, at least three inches in caliper or as approved by the Director, shall be planted at least three feet from the street curb, and a maximum of 25 feet on center, and shall conform to the sight distance requirements of BCC 14.60.240.

C. Pedestrian Paths.

1. **Minimum Width.** The minimum width of pedestrian paths shall be 12 feet inclusive of the planter strip. Parking spaces adjacent to pedestrian paths must be designed to ensure that the minimum sidewalk width is maintained free of vehicle encroachments.
2. **Location.** Pedestrian path locations and phasing shall be determined through the Master Development Plan process consistent with the site design guidelines.
3. **Landscape Strips.**
 - a. **Installation.** The property owner shall install trees and plantings, in addition to any landscaping required by LUC 20.25F1.050, pursuant to the City of Bellevue Environmental Best Management Practices and Design Standards, now or as hereafter amended. Tree and planter strips shall be irrigated.
 - b. **Design.** Appropriate tree species and landscaping shall be determined through the Master Development Plan process. Street trees, shrubbery, ground cover and other plantings approved by the Director shall be provided in continuous planter strips along the length of a pedestrian path. The area in which street trees are planted must be at least four feet wide by six feet wide. Vegetation approved for a planter strip must be compatible with the F1 Design Guidelines for the development area within which the planter strip is located. (Ord. 5726, 3-19-07, § 3)

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Part 20.25H Critical Areas Overlay District

20.25H.080 Performance standards.

A. General.

Development on sites with a type S or F stream or associated critical area buffer shall incorporate the following performance standards in design of the development, as applicable:

[...]

3. Toxic runoff from new impervious area shall be routed away from the stream.
4. Treated water may be allowed to enter the stream critical area buffer.
5. The outer edge of the stream critical area buffer shall be planted with dense vegetation to limit pet or human use. Preference shall be given to native species.

Part 20.25J Medical Institution District

20.25J.070 Streetscape Design Requirements

[...]

B. Sidewalks

[...]

2. Street Trees and Plantings

- a. The property owner shall install street trees and plantings, in addition to any landscaping required by LUC 20.25J.060. Appropriate tree species will be determined through the Master Development Plan or Design Review where Master Development Plan approval is not required.
- b. The area in which street plantings are installed must be located between the street and the sidewalk unless precluded by existing utilities which cannot reasonably be relocated. Required street trees together with shrubbery, groundcover and other approved plantings must be placed in a planter strip along the length of the frontage. Where feasible, bioretention swales and planters may be located within the planter strip. Free and planter strips can double as bioretention planters. The planter strip must be at least four feet wide unless a smaller strip is approved by the Director. Vegetation included in the planter strip shall be urban in character, shall be compatible with other plantings within the property and along the same street, and shall reflect the character of the area in which they are planted. Designs should prioritize the selection of Native plant species. Vegetation is strongly preferred.
- c. Street trees, at least three inches in caliper or as approved by the Director, must be planted at least three feet from the street curb, and a maximum of 25 feet on center, unless upon request of the applicant minor modification of this requirement is approved

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by the Director, and conforms to the sight distance requirements of BCC 14.60.240. A street tree planting area may also include decorative paving and other plant materials except turf.

- d. Street trees and plantings shall be irrigated.

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Low Impact Development

Principles Project

Low impact development (LID) is a design approach that seeks to mimic the natural hydrologic cycle of a landscape. LID practices are designed to manage stormwater runoff at the source, reducing the volume and rate of runoff entering the stormwater system. LID practices include permeable pavement, rain gardens, bioswales, and other measures that help to infiltrate water into the ground, reducing the amount of runoff that enters the stormwater system.

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Part 20.30D Planned Unit Development

20.30D.110 Scope.

This Part 20.30D establishes the procedure and criteria that the City will use in making a decision upon an application for a Planned Unit Development.

20.30D.115 Applicability.

- A. This part applies to each application for a Planned Unit Development.
- B. An applicant may submit an application for a Planned Unit Development for a residential or mixed residential and commercial use project.
- C. In no case may a Planned Unit Development include uses which are not permitted by the zoning of the subject property. For purposes of this Part 20.30D, however, a single-family dwelling as defined in LUC 20.50.016 includes dwellings attached by common walls, floors and ceilings.
(Ord. 5089, 8-3-98, § 31; Ord. 4972, 3-3-97, § 42; Ord. 4816, 12-4-95, § 141)

20.30D.120 Purpose.

A Planned Unit Development is a mechanism by which the City may permit a variety in type, design, and arrangement of structures; and enable the coordination of project characteristics with features of a particular site in a manner consistent with the public health, safety and welfare. A Planned Unit Development allows for innovations and special features in site development, including the location of structures, conservation of natural land features, protection of critical areas and critical area buffers, the use of low impact development techniques, conservation of energy, and efficient utilization of open space. (Ord. 5682, 6-26-06, § 9)

20.30D.150 Planned Unit Development plan – Decision criteria.

The City may approve or approve with modifications a Planned Unit Development plan if:

- A. The Planned Unit Development is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan; and
- B. The Planned Unit Development accomplishes, by the use of permitted flexibility and variation in design, a development that is better than that resulting from traditional development. Net benefit to the City may be demonstrated by one or more of the following:
 - 1. Placement, type or reduced bulk of structures, or
 - 2. Interconnected usable open space, or
 - 3. Recreation facilities, or
 - 4. Other public facilities, or
 - 5. Conservation of natural features, ~~vegetation and on-site soils~~, or
 - ~~5-6.~~ Reduction in hard surfaces, or

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- ~~6-7.~~ Conservation of critical areas and critical area buffers beyond that required under Part 20.25H LUC, or
- ~~7-8.~~ Aesthetic features and harmonious design, or
- ~~8-9.~~ Energy efficient site design or building features, or
- ~~9-10.~~ Use of low impact development techniques; and
- C. The Planned Unit Development results in no greater burden on present and projected public utilities and services than would result from traditional development and the Planned Unit Development will be served by adequate public or private facilities including streets, fire protection, and utilities; and
- D. The perimeter of the Planned Unit Development is compatible with the existing land use or property that abuts or is directly across the street from the subject property. Compatibility includes but is not limited to size, scale, mass and architectural design of proposed structures; and
- E. Landscaping within and along the perimeter of the Planned Unit Development is superior to that required by this code, LUC 20.20.520 and landscaping requirements applicable to specific districts contained in Chapter 20.25 LUC, and enhances the visual compatibility of the development with the surrounding neighborhood; and
- F. At least one major circulation point is functionally connected to a public right-of-way; and
- G. Open space, where provided to meet the requirements of LUC 20.30D.160.A.1, within the Planned Unit Development is an integrated part of the project rather than an isolated element of the project; and
- H. The design is compatible with and responds to the existing or intended character, appearance, quality of development and physical characteristics of the subject property and immediate vicinity; and
- I. That part of a Planned Unit Development in a transition area meets the intent of the transition area requirements, Part 20.25B LUC, although the specific dimensional requirements of Part 20.25B LUC may be modified through the Planned Unit Development process; and
- J. Roads and streets, whether public or private, within and contiguous to the site comply with Transportation Department guidelines for construction of streets; and
- K. Streets and sidewalks, existing and proposed, are suitable and adequate to carry anticipated traffic within the proposed project and in the vicinity of the proposed project; and
- L. Each phase of the proposed development, as it is planned to be completed, contains the required parking spaces, open space, recreation space, landscaping and utility area necessary for creating and sustaining a desirable and stable environment. (Ord. 5876, 5-18-09, § 26; Ord. 5682, 6-26-06, § 10; Ord. 4972, 3-3-97, § 48; Ord. 4816, 12-4-95, § 147)

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20.30D.160 Planned Unit Development plan – Conservation feature and recreation space requirement.

A. General.

Within a Planned Unit Development including residential uses:

1. Through the conservation design features included in subsection B of this section, the proposal must earn square footage credit totaling at least 40 percent of the gross land area, which includes any critical area or critical area buffer; and
2. At least 10 percent of the gross land area, which includes any critical area or critical area buffer, of the subject property must be retained or developed as common recreation space as defined by LUC 20.50.044; provided, however, that the requirement for recreation space may be waived if the total of critical area and critical area buffer equals at least 40 percent of the gross land area; and
3. Recreation space as required by subsection A.2 of this section may be included within non-critical area conservation design features required by subsection A.1 of this section if:
 - a. The common recreation space does not interfere with the purposes and functions of the conservation design feature; and
 - b. At least 20 percent of the gross land area is nonrecreation open space. Provided, however, that recreation space may not occur in a critical area or a critical area buffer; and
4. The area of the site devoted to pedestrian trails shall not be included in the required common recreation space unless public trails are specifically required by the City; and
5. An outdoor children's play area meeting the requirements of LUC 20.20.540 may be included in the above-described common recreation space requirement; and
6. For mixed use projects, the required open and recreation space shall be designed to meet the needs of both the residential and commercial uses.

B. Conservation Design Features.

To satisfy the requirements of subsection A of this section, a proposal shall include any combination of the following factors. The total square footage credit required in subsection A of this section is calculated by multiplying the square footage actually dedicated to the conservation design feature by the conservation factor set forth below. Where noted, certain conservation design features are not eligible to earn square footage credit unless the minimum size requirements are met. After the minimum size requirement is met, each square foot provided may be used to calculate the square footage credit earned by the feature.

Conservation Design Feature	Conservation Factor	Minimum Size of Retained Area Before Credit Earned
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Critical area or areas placed in a tract (connection between isolated critical areas credited as corridor below)	1.0	
Preservation of Westside lowland conifer hardwood forest not already in critical area and/or preservation of recommended forest habitat to protect species of local importance	1.2	20,000 sq. ft.
Designated wildlife corridor, trail or other essential connection set aside in a tract	1.2	
Critical area buffer increased by 15% or more and placed in tract	1.2	
Preservation of native soils and mature trees on required open space or combination of preservation with hydrologic enhancement (soil amendment and tree such that vegetative areas are connected to soil below)	1.1	10,000 sq. ft. canopy cover or amended and planted area
Site area set aside in separate tract to achieve bio-retention and runoff dispersion to natural areas or to soil layer below; e.g., community rain garden, downspout dispersion or similar LID techniques. Must serve more than one residence.	1.1	5,000 sq. ft. reserved for rain garden or dispersion
Landscaped or grass open space in separate tract for active or passive recreation but only partially connected to soil below	1.0	2,500 sq. ft. contiguous area
Paved but pervious open space; e.g., court yards and similar facilities	1.0	1,500 sq. ft.
Impervious paved court yards and similar facilities that meet minimum definition of open space	1.0	2,500 sq. ft.
Built Green certification for green communities	1.0	200 points earned under Built Green's "Site Design Criteria." For sites with critical areas, proposal must achieve all of the available points from the open space and habitat preservation

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		sections as part of the total 200 points
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C. Maintenance.

In appropriate circumstances the City may require a reasonable performance or maintenance assurance device in conformance with LUC 20.40.490 to assure the retention and continued maintenance of all open and recreation space or conservation design feature in conformance with the Land Use Code and the Planned Unit Development plan approval. (Ord. 5682, 6-26-06, § 11; Ord. 4972, 3-3-97, § 50; Ord. 4816, 12-4-95, § 149; Ord. 3775, 5-26-87, § 20)

20.30D.165 Planned Unit Development plan – Request for modification of zoning requirements.

The applicant may request a modification of the requirements and standards of the Land Use Code as follows:

A. Density and Floor Area Ratio (FAR).

1. General. The applicant may request a bonus in the number of dwelling units permitted by the underlying land use district or the maximum FAR (see general dimensional requirements contained in LUC 20.20.010, and district-specific requirements contained in Chapter 20.25 LUC.
2. Bonus Decision Criteria. The City may approve a bonus in the number of dwelling units allowed by no more than 10 percent over the base density for proposals complying with this subsection A.2. Base density shall be determined on sites with critical areas or critical area buffers pursuant to LUC 20.25H.045. Base density on all other sites shall be determined based on the gross land area of the property excluding either that area utilized for traffic circulation roads or 20 percent, whichever is less. The bonus allowed by this section may be approved only if:
 - a. The design of the development offsets the impact of the increase in density; and
 - b. The increase in density is compatible with existing uses in the immediate vicinity of the subject property.
3. Senior Citizen Dwelling. An additional 10 percent density bonus may be approved for senior citizen dwellings if the criteria in subsection A.2 of this section are met and if the average dwelling unit size does not exceed 600 square feet.

B. Height.

The applicant may request a modification of height from that allowed by the land use district, provided topography and arrangement of structures does not unreasonably impair primary scenic views (e.g., mountains, lakes, unique skylines) of the surrounding area, as compared to lot-by-lot development. Proposals earning bonus density pursuant to this section or LUC

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20.30D.167 may only receive an increase in height if the requirements of subsection A.2 of this section are met, considering the impact of increased height.

C. Zero Lot Line. This is a configuration where the house and/or garage is built up to one of the side lot lines, providing the opportunity for more usable space in the opposing side yard.

1. General. The applicant may request a reduction in the required side setback from that required by the land use district and district specific requirements. Zero lot line setbacks are not permitted for side yards along the perimeter of the PUD.

2. Setback Reduction Decision Criteria. The City may approve a reduction in the setback of up to one side setback. The reduction in side setback shall be approved only if:

a. The opposing side setback shall be at least 10 feet.

b. In order to maintain privacy, no windows, doors, air conditioning units, or any other types of openings in the walls along the zero lot line wall, except for windows that do not allow for visibility into the side yard of the adjacent lot.

C.D. Other.

The City may approve a modification of any provision of the Land Use Code, except as provided in LUC 20.30D.170, if the resulting site development complies with the criteria of this part. (Ord. 5876, 5-18-09, § 27; Ord. 5682, 6-26-06, § 12; Ord. 5480, 10-20-03, § 24; Ord. 5089, 8-3-98, § 33; Ord. 4972, 3-3-97, § 51; Ord. 4816, 12-4-95, § 150; Ord. 4065, 10-23-89, § 6; Ord. 3690, 8-4-86, § 19)

20.30D.167 Planned Unit Development – Additional bonus density for large-parcel projects.

A. Purpose.

The City desires to offer incentives to property owners to develop multi-unit residential projects with site features and site designs that minimize impacts to critical area functions and values. Many of these techniques are new, and their effectiveness is uncertain. The City desires additional information about the impact of these design techniques and features, to determine the appropriate amount of density bonus and other incentives to offer for their use, and to determine what, if any, design features are required to offset the impact of the increased density. The projects allowed under this section are mechanisms to allow the City to gather such information prior to making additional density available to all projects.

B. Eligible Sites.

Projects will only be authorized on sites of five acres or more.

C. Applicable Procedure.

A project will be approved as part of the PUD approval for the underlying proposal.

D. Additional Bonus.

The City may authorize additional bonus density, up to 30 percent of the base density, for proposals including additional conservation design features above the amount required in LUC 20.30D.160.A. Base density shall be determined on sites with critical areas or critical area

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buffers pursuant to LUC 20.25H.045. Base density on all other sites shall be determined based on the gross land area of the property excluding either that area utilized for traffic circulation roads or 20 percent, whichever is less. Bonus density shall be based on the square footage credit earned divided by the minimum lot size of the underlying land use district. Bonus density may be approved only if the proposal meets the criteria of LUC 20.30D.165.A.2.a and A.2.b. (Ord. 5682, 6-26-06, § 13)

20.30D.170 Planned Unit Development plan – Limitation on authority to modify zoning.

The following provisions of the Land Use Code may not be modified pursuant to LUC 20.30D.165:

- A. Any provision of this Part 20.30D, Planned Unit Development; or
- B. Any provision of LUC 20.10.440, Land Use Chart, and district-specific requirements contained in Chapter 20.25 LUC, except where district-specific requirements would prohibit Zero Lot-Line development, as provided for in section 20.30D.165.C (Zero Lot-Line); or
- C. Any provision of Part 20.25E LUC, the Shoreline Overlay District; however, requests for modifications to the requirements of Part 20.25E LUC, where allowed under the provisions of that part, may be considered together with an application for a Planned Unit Development; or
- D. Any provision of the Land Use Code which specifically states that it is not subject to modification; or
- E. The procedural, enforcement and administrative provisions of the Land Use Code or any other applicable City Code; or
- F. Any provision of Part 20.25H LUC, the Critical Areas Overlay District, except as specifically provided for in that part; however, requests for modifications to the requirements of Part 20.25H LUC, where allowed under the provisions of that part, may be considered together with an application for a Planned Unit Development. (Ord. 5876, 5-18-09, § 28; Ord. 5682, 6-26-06, § 14; Ord. 5089, 8-3-98, § 34; Ord. 4972, 3-3-97, § 52; Ord. 4816, 12-4-95, § 151; Ord. 3775, 5-26-87, § 21)

20.30D.175 Planned Unit Development plan – Authorized activity.

Following approval of the Planned Unit Development plan, the applicant may begin any work that is specifically authorized in the Planned Unit Development approval and is not prohibited by any other applicable regulation. No other work may be done until the final development plan is approved. (Ord. 4972, 3-3-97, § 53; Ord. 4816, 12-4-95, § 152)

20.30D.195 Planned Unit Development plan – Merger with subdivision.

A. General.

The applicant may request that the City process a preliminary plat in conjunction with a Planned Unit Development plan. Platting is required for all projects which involve or contemplate the subdivision of land.

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B. Procedure.

The City may review and decide upon a preliminary plat at the same hearing as the preliminary development plan to the extent allowed by such procedures.

C. Plat Requirements.

The preliminary plat must comply with the procedures, standards and criteria of Chapters 20.45A and 20.45B LUC and must conform to the Planned Unit Development plan. (Ord. 5232, 7-17-00, § 12; Ord. 4972, 3-3-97, § 57; Ord. 4816, 12-4-95, § 156)

20.30D.200 Planned Unit Development plan – Effect of approval.

A. Recording Required.

The approval of the Planned Unit Development plan constitutes the City's acceptance of the general project, including its density, intensity, arrangement and design. Upon final Planned Unit Development approval that is not merged with a subdivision, the Development Services Department will forward an approved Planned Unit Development to the King County Department of Records and Elections for recording. No administrative approval of a Planned Unit Development is deemed final until the Planned Unit Development is recorded and proof of recording is received by the Development Services Department. See Chapter 20.45 LUC for recording requirements of Planned Unit Developments merged with subdivisions.

B. Planned Unit Development in the Critical Area Overlay District.

Where a Planned Unit Development within the Critical Area Overlay District is not merged with a subdivision, the Planned Unit Development recorded under this section shall have designated on the face of the final document a Native Growth Protection Easement(s) (NGPE). The NGPE(s) shall contain all critical areas, critical area buffers, and retained significant trees. The final Planned Unit Development shall contain the following restrictions for use, development and disturbance of the NGPE in a format approved by the City Attorney:

1. An assurance that: the NGPE will be kept free from all development and disturbance except where allowed or required for habitat improvement projects, vegetation management, and new or expanded city parks pursuant to LUC 20.25H.055; and that native vegetation, existing topography, and other natural features will be preserved for the purpose of preventing harm to property and the environment, including, but not limited to, controlling surface water runoff and erosion, maintaining slope stability, buffering and protecting plants and animal habitat;
2. The right of the City of Bellevue to enter the property to investigate the condition of the NGPE upon reasonable notice;
3. The right of the City of Bellevue to enforce the terms of the NGPE; and
4. A management plan for the NGPE designating future management responsibility. (Ord. 5682, 6-26-06, § 15; Ord. 5481, 10-20-03, § 6; Ord. 4972, 3-3-97, § 58; Ord. 4816, 12-4-95, § 157)

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20.30D.250 Planned Unit Development plan – Phased development.

If developed in phases, each phase of an approved Planned Unit Development must contain the required number of parking spaces, the required open space, recreation space, landscaping, and utility areas necessary to create a desirable and stable environment pending completion of the total Planned Unit Development as approved. Each phase must also contain any of the approved conservation factor project design features necessary to support bonus density constructed in that phase. (Ord. 5682, 6-26-06, § 16; Ord. 4972, 3-3-97, § 68; Ord. 4816, 12-4-95, § 167)

20.30D.255 Planned Unit Development plan – Map designation.

A. General.

Upon approval of the development plan the City will place the file number of the Planned Unit Development on the location of the subject property on the City of Bellevue Zoning Map.

B. Effect.

Redevelopment of property for which a Planned Unit Development has been approved must be consistent with the Planned Unit Development plan and any amendments to that plan. (Ord. 4972, 3-3-97, § 69; Ord. 4816, 12-4-95, § 168)

20.30D.280 Merger with Binding Site Plan.

A. General.

The applicant may request that the site plan approved with the Planned Unit Development constitute a Binding Site Plan pursuant to Chapter 58.17 RCW.

B. Survey and Recording Required.

If a site plan is approved as a Binding Site Plan, the applicant shall provide a recorded survey depicting all lot lines and shall record the approved site plan and survey with the King County Department of Records and Elections. No document shall be presented for recording without the signature of each owner of the subject property.

C. Effect of Binding Site Plan.

Upon the approval and recording of a Binding Site Plan the applicant may develop the subject property in conformance with the approved and recorded Binding Site Plan and without regard to lot lines internal to the subject property. Any sale or lease of lots or parcels within the subject property shall be subject to the approved and recorded Binding Site Plan and the requirements of state law. (Ord. 4972, 3-3-97, § 74; Ord. 4816, 12-4-95, § 173; Ord. 3848, 11-16-88, § 3)

20.30D.285 Amendment of an approved Planned Unit Development.

- A.** There are three ways to modify or add to an approved Planned Unit Development: process as a new decision, process as a Land Use Exemption, or process as an administrative amendment.
- B.** Except as provided in subsections C and D of this section, modification of a previously approved Planned Unit Development shall be treated as a new application.
- C.** Land Use Exemption for a Planned Unit Development.

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The Director may determine that a modification to a previously approved Planned Unit Development is exempt from further review under the administrative amendment process or as a new application, provided the following criteria are met:

1. The change is necessary because of natural features of the subject property; and
2. The change will not have the effect of significantly reducing any area of landscaping, open space, natural area or parking; and
3. The change will not have the effect of increasing the density of the Planned Unit Development; and
4. The change will not add square footage that is more than 20 percent of the existing gross square footage of the Planned Unit Development; and
5. If an addition or expansion has been approved within the preceding 24-month period, the combined additions will not add square footage that exceeds 20 percent of existing gross square footage of the Planned Unit Development; and
6. The change will not result in any structure, circulation or parking area being moved significantly in any direction; and
7. The change will not reduce any approved setback by more than 10 percent; and
8. The change will not result in a significant increase in the height of any structure; and
9. The change does not result in any significant adverse impacts beyond the site.

D. Administrative Amendment of Planned Unit Development.

The Director may approve modifications to an approved Planned Unit Development as an administrative amendment subject to the procedures set forth in LUC 20.35.200 et seq., if the following criteria are met:

1. The amendment maintains the design intent or purpose of the original approval; and
2. The amendment maintains the quality of design or product established by the original approval; and
3. The amendment is not materially detrimental to uses or property in the immediate vicinity of the subject property.

E. The Director may impose conditions upon any administrative amendment to ensure the proposal complies with the decision criteria and the purpose and intent of the original approval. (Ord. 6197, 11-17-14, § 23; Ord. 5790, 12-3-07, § 2; Ord. 5481, 10-20-03, § 7; Ord. 4972, 3-3-97, § 75; Ord. 4816, 12-4-95, § 174)

Purpose

The purpose of this handout is to clarify the definition of "landmark tree" pursuant to Bellevue Land Use Code (LUC) Chapter 20.20.900, Tree Retention and Replacement for the purpose of determining thresholds for "rare, uncommon, unique or exceptional" trees on sites undergoing development, in order to establish appropriate tree protection measures.

Background

Bellevue LUC Chapter 20.20.900, Tree Retention and Replacement, provides means for protecting trees in Bellevue. Under this chapter, landmark trees are given priority for retention. Landmark trees are defined in Bellevue LUC 20.50 as:

"Certain significant trees are considered landmark trees based on their size, species, condition, cultural/historic importance or age. The Director shall specify thresholds for trees to be considered for landmark status."

This handout provides clarification for determining trees that should be considered for landmark status as well as the standards and procedures for marking this determination.

Size Thresholds

Trees with a diameter at breast height (dbh), defined in this handout, that is equal to or greater than the threshold diameters listed in Table 1 are considered landmark unless they fail to meet the risk criteria discussed in the following section. For all species not listed in Table 1, the threshold diameter is 30" or 65% of the largest documented diameter for a tree of that species in Washington, whichever is less, as noted in Champion Trees of Washington State by Robert Van Pelt.

Measurement of Tree Diameter

Diameter at breast height (dbh), which means the diameter of a tree trunk measured at 4.5 feet above average grade, is used in determining the diameter of existing trees.

Where a tree has a branch(es) or swelling that interferes with measurement at 4.5 feet above average grade or where a tree tapers below this point, the diameter is measured at the most narrow point below 4.5 feet. For trees located on a slope, the 4.5 feet is measured from the average of the highest and lowest ground points or, on very steep slopes where this is not possible, the lowest practical point on the uphill side. Where a tree splits into several trunks close to ground level, the dbh for the tree is the square root of the sum of the dbh for each individual stem squared (example with 3 stems: $dbh = \sqrt{(stem1)^2 + (stem2)^2 + (stem3)^2}$)

Risk Assessment

Trees that meet the size threshold discussed above shall be considered landmark trees unless DSD finds that the tree or trees should be removed based on a risk assessment produced by a qualified professional. In making this determination, a qualified professional will consider crown size, structure, disease, past maintenance practice, potential damage to existing or future targets, risk mitigation options, and, when development is proposed, the likelihood of survival after construction.

To undertake tree risk assessment as part of a development application, a qualified professional shall have a minimum of 3 years' experience in tree evaluation and shall have worked directly with the protection of trees during construction, as well as having one of the following credentials:

- Society of American Foresters (SAF) Certified Forester;
- International Society of Arborists (ISA) Certified Arborist with Tree Risk Assessor Qualification.

Sources

Champion Trees of Washington State, 1996, by Robert Van Pelt.

Table 1: Size Thresholds for Common and Naïve Bellevue Trees to be considered for landmark status.

Species	Threshold Diameter
Native Species	
Oregon ASH – <i>Fraxinus latifolia</i>	24 in
CASCARA – <i>Rhamnus purshiana</i>	8 in
Western Red CEDAR – <i>Thuja plicata</i>	30 in
Pacific CRABAPPLE – <i>Malus fusca</i>	12 in
Pacific DOGWOOD – <i>Cornus nuttallii</i>	8 in
Douglas FIR – <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	30 in
Grand FIR – <i>Abies grandis</i>	24 in
Black HAWTHORN – <i>Crataegus douglasii</i>	8 in
Western HEMLOCK – <i>Tsuga heterophylla</i>	24 in
MADRONA – <i>Arbutus menziesii</i>	8 in
Bigleaf MAPLE – <i>Acer macrophyllum</i>	30 in
Dwarf or Rocky Mountain MAPLE – <i>Acer glabrum</i> var. <i>Douglasii</i>	8 in
Vine MAPLE – <i>Acer circinatum</i>	8 in
Oregon White or Garry OAK – <i>Quercus garryana</i>	8 in
Lodgepole PINE – <i>Pinus contorta</i>	8 in
Shore PINE – <i>Pinus contorta</i> 'contorta'	12 in
Western White PINE – <i>Pinus monticola</i>	24 in
Western SERVICEBERRY – <i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i>	8 in
Sitka SPRUCE – <i>Picea sitchensis</i>	8 in
Pacific YEW – <i>Taxus brevifolia</i>	8 in
Non-native Species	
Orchard (Common) APPLE – <i>Malus</i> sp.	20 in
Atlas CEDAR – <i>Cedrus atlantica</i>	30 in
Deodor CEDAR – <i>Cedrus deodara</i>	30 in
Incense CEDAR – <i>Calocedrus decurrens</i>	30 in
Flowering CHERRY – <i>Prunus</i> sp. (<i>serrula</i> , <i>serrulata</i> , <i>sargentii</i> , <i>subhirtella</i> , <i>yedoensis</i>)	23 in
Lawson CYPRESS – <i>Chamaecyparis lawsoniana</i>	30 in
Kousa DOGWOOD – <i>Cornus kousa</i>	12 in
Eastern DOGWOOD – <i>Cornus florida</i>	12 in
American ELM – <i>Ulmus Americana</i>	30 in
English ELM – <i>Ulmus procera</i>	30 in
GINGKO – <i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	24 in
Common HAWTHORN – <i>Crataegus laevigata</i>	16 in
Washington HAWTHORN – <i>Crataegus phaenopyrum</i>	9 in
European HORNBEAM – <i>Carpinus betulus</i>	16 in
Common HORSE CHESTNUT – <i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	30 in
Red HORSE CHESTNUT – <i>Aesculus x carnea</i>	30 in
KATSURA – <i>Cercidiphyllum japonicum</i>	30 in
Littleleaf LINDEN – <i>Tilia cordata</i>	30 in
Honey LOCUST – <i>Gleditsia triancanthos</i>	20 in
Southern MAGNOLIA – <i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>	16 in
Paperbark MAPLE – <i>Acer griseum</i>	12 in
Japanese MAPLE – <i>Acer palmatum</i>	12 in
Norway MAPLE – <i>Acer platanoides</i>	30 in
Red MAPLE – <i>Acer rubrum</i>	25 in
Sugar MAPLE – <i>Acer saccharum</i>	30 in
Sycamore MAPLE – <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	24 in
MONKEY PUZZLE TREE – <i>Araucaria araucana</i>	22 in
Pin OAK – <i>Quercus palustris</i>	30 in
Red OAK – <i>Quercus rubra</i>	30 in

Austrian Black PINE – <i>Pinus nigra</i>	24 in
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Ponderosa PINE – <i>Pinus ponderosa</i>	30 in
Scot's PINE – <i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	24 in
London PLANE – <i>Platanus acerifolia</i>	30 in
Flowering PLUM – <i>Prunus cerasifera</i>	21 in
Coastal REDWOOD – <i>Sequoia sempervirens</i>	30 in
Giant SEQUOIA – <i>Sequoiadendron giganteum</i>	30 in
Japanese SNOWBELL – <i>Styrax japonica</i>	12 in
American SWEETGUM – <i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	27 in
TULIP TREE – <i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	30 in

This document is intended to provide guidance in applying certain Land Use Code regulations and is for informational use only. It cannot be used as a substitute for the Land Use Code or for other city codes, such as the Construction Codes. Additional information is available from Development Services at Bellevue City Hall or on the city website at www.bellevuewa.gov.

For land use regulations that may apply to your project, contact the Land Use Information Desk in Development Services. Phone: 425-452-4188. E-mail: landusereview@bellevuewa.gov. Assistance for the hearing impaired: dial 711.

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Low Impact Development Principles Project



For Council Consideration and Comment Low Impact Development Principles Project Final Interest Statement and Project Principles July 6, 2015¹

Purpose

The interest statement and project principles are intended to guide staff and the City's commission's and boards as they explore and develop appropriate options and recommended amendments to Bellevue's development codes and standards to make low impact development (LID) the preferred and commonly used approach to site development in Bellevue.

Background

The 2013-2018 NPDES² Western Washington Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit requires the City to review and revise its development-related codes and standards to incorporate LID principles. The intent of the revisions is to make LID the preferred and commonly used approach to site development. The permit defines LID principles as land use management strategies that emphasize conservation, use of on-site natural features, and site planning to minimize impervious surfaces, native vegetation loss, and stormwater runoff. LID principles are different from LID best management practices (BMPs), which are on-site stormwater control and treatment facilities such as rain gardens and permeable pavement. LID BMP requirements will be addressed in a different project. The LID principles are the focus of this project.

The review and revision process the City is undertaking must be similar to that described in *Integrating LID into Local Codes: A Guidebook for Local Governments* (Puget Sound Partnership 2012). Under the terms of the permit, this project must be completed by December 31, 2016. A report detailing how the project satisfies the permit conditions is due to Ecology in March of 2017.

Interest Statement

Bellevue has a long history of supporting low impact development principles in its development policies and regulations; from early (1987) sensitive or critical areas protection and long-standing significant tree and maximum impervious surface coverage regulations to the clustering and LID incentive regulations included in the recent (2009) Bel-Red Rezone.

Bellevue supports the objective of maintaining the region's quality of life, including that of making low impact development the preferred and commonly used approach to site development.

¹ Includes edits received from City Council at the July 6, 2015 Council Study Session.

² NPDES means National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System. The NPDES Permit is a Federal Clean Water Act permit intended to protect water quality and fishable, swimmable uses of the nation's surface water resources.

Project Principles

The Project Principles are intended to ensure the community's visions and goals are achieved while developing a program that supports development and redevelopment and meets LID Principles. The following Council-approved Project Principles will guide the LID Principles Project:

Bellevue Appropriate. Proposed amendments to Bellevue's development codes and standards will be area and context sensitive. A one-size-fits-all is inappropriate. Attention will be paid to the differing levels of urban development, watershed conditions, impervious surface coverage, tree canopy coverage, and areas of direct discharge. Proposed amendments, where feasible, will provide flexibility, incentives, and innovation in achieving the goal of making LID the preferred and commonly used approach to site development in Bellevue.

Engage Stakeholders. Provide a public participation process that seeks and includes input from a wide range of stake holders. The process will provide opportunities for interested stakeholders to learn about LID principles, participate in developing options, and provide meaningful and informed comments.

Maintain Bellevue's Compliance Record with its NDPES Stormwater Permit. The LID principles project shall be timely completed to ensure compliance with the requirement that amendments are effective by December 31, 2016.

Build On Existing Information and Programs. The LID Principles Project will build on existing City information and programs to develop and evaluate options to make LID the preferred and commonly used approach to site development.

Recognize and Seek to Balance Competing Needs. The LID Principles Project will recognize and seek to balance competing laws applicable to development and redevelopment, by considering and developing effective, innovative, flexible, and/or area-specific options. The LID Principles Project will also recognize that supporting growth in urban areas is appropriate and that balancing environmental benefits with economic development goals is important.

Council Approved Areas of Focus for the LID Principles Project.

The City Council directs staff to begin exploring, in accordance with the Project Principles listed above, the following six Areas of Focus:

1. Land Use Code

- a. Evaluate use of LID principles (and BMPs) early in the site design process;
- b. Reduce impervious surface coverage
- c. Preserve and enhance tree canopy
- d. Improve options for clustering development

2. Transportation Code and Design Standards

- a. Reduce impervious surfaces in road rights-of-way
- b. Enhance tree canopy in transportation facilities